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SOME PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES IMPROVED.
OTHERS CRITICIZED

AKTYUBINSK FACILITIES ENLARGED -- Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 21, 25 May 49

The public health network is being expanded in Aktyubinsk Oblast, Kazakh SSR. In the past 18 months alone, an ophthalmological hospital with a trachoma department, a tuberculosis dispensary, a hospital and children's sanatorium for suspected cases, and a station for brucellemia cases have been opened.

Pathysiologists are being trained. All of them will be supplied with equipment for performing artificial pneumothorax. In 1948, a surgical hospital was established in the mines. A number of other enterprises developed new offices and specialized divisions. Specialists are trained intensively because there is a shortage in the oblast. For example, 15 doctors are taking specialized training in the oblast center, in Alma-Ata, and in Tashkent.

However, it must be noted that our needs are not always taken into consideration. The oblast is not provided with enough medical personnel. Two hundred more physicians are needed on the staff. Fifty-six doctors were required from the graduating classes of Medical Institute in 1948, but only 40 were sent. -- Ye. Chernov, director, Oblast Public Health Department

INSTITUTE AIDS DOCTORS -- Meditsinskiy Rabotnik. No 21, 25 May 49

The teaching staff of the Dagestan Medical Institute recently pledged to assist doctors of the area. In 1949, 37 doctors have been given special training in clinics of the Institute: 6 surgeons, 10 therapists, 6 uterologists, 10 pediatricians, and 5 dermato-venereologists.

Part of this group is still working in the clinics. Two "brigades" of qualified specialists have already gone out to the mountainous regions of Dagestan. One of the groups is headed by Surgeon Mirza Magomedov.

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CLASSIFICATION

Abstract

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Workers of the Chair for the Organization of Public Health are pledged to carry out experimental study and analysis for the united institutions in Makhachkala, Derbent, Buynaksk, and three mountain rayons. Work has begun in the Central Clinical Hospital at Makhachkala. -- R. Alikishiyev, Chairman, "Obkcom," Union of Medical Workers.

MALARIA UNCHECKED -- Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 21, 25 May 49

Last summer a unit from the Clinic of Tropical Diseases of the Tashkent Medical Institute made a field trip to Mirzakhul Rayon, Tashkent Oblast. The unit was headed by the director of the clinic, Professor Nadzhmetdinov. The public health leaders of the rayon, which is plagued with malaria, were hopeful that the arrival of such authoritative specialists would result in some constructive work. However, the unit was interested only in its search for a special form of plasmodium. For this purpose, the populations of two villages were examined, and incidentally, the members of the unit questioned a few patients in the rayon hospital and read several lectures to the medical workers and kolkhoz workers.

This year, the number of persons ill with malaria in Mirzakhul Rayon is higher than ever before. The kolkhoz workers are carrying out intensive work in exploiting the Golodnaya steppe and several thousand families from the southern regions of the republic have settled in the rayon.

A great opportunity exists for the workers of the Clinic of Tropical Diseases; they are in a position to render enormous service to the kolkhoz workers by directing and leading the fight against malaria. There is not an experienced malarialogist in the rayon, and this is a well-known fact in the clinic.

The representatives of the Antiepidemic Administration of the Ministry of Public Health Uzbek SSR, the Tashkent Oblast Public Health Department, and the Oblast Tropical Diseases Station requested Professor Nadzhmetdinov to have the clinic aid in conducting antimalaria measures in Mirzakhul Rayon, but this request was in vain. Then a letter was sent to the Samarkand Institute of Malaria and Parasitology, and a unit was sent out with the head of the institute, Professor L. M. Isayev, in charge for practical work in Mirzakhul Rayon.

A similar criticism is leveled at the Tuberculosis Clinic, directed by Professor Gaspar'yan. The need for phthisiologists is unusually great, yet in 1947 and 1948, only 19 doctors finished their specialized training instead of the 30 envisaged by the plan. The pace of the remaining clinics follows that of those mentioned pretty closely, and although excellent resolutions have been adopted, they have not been carried out. -- D. Sonichev, Tashkent Correspondent

SEMASHKO DEAD -- Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 21, 25 May 49

Nikolaya Aleksandrovicha Semashko, one of the first organizers of Soviet public health, an outstanding Party functionary, and a renowned teacher, was buried 20 May 1949 in Moscow. His services were highly valued by the government, and he was awarded the Order of Lenin and the Order of the Red Banner. During the past few years, he had directed the Institute for the Organization of Public Health and the History of Medicine, and headed the Institute of School Hygiene in the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of the RSFSR. One of the organizers of the Soviet medical service in the last war, he taught for 27 years at the First Moscow Medical Institute.

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